

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 23, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 6, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 21, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 883

Introduced by Assembly Member Cooley

February 22, 2013

An act to add and repeal Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) of Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child sexual abuse, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 883, as amended, Cooley. Child sexual abuse: prevention pilot program.

Existing law authorizes the Office of Child Abuse Prevention to fund, through allocations provided to local counties, child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs. Existing law creates the State Children's Trust Fund in the State Treasury and requires money in the fund to be allocated to the State Department of Social Services for the purpose of funding child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs.

This bill would establish the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program as a pilot program in no more than 3 counties, as ~~determined~~ *selected* by the State Department of Social Services *from among counties that volunteer to participate and based on specified criteria*, to provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention services through public, private, or nonprofit programs that provide those services. The bill

would annually appropriate \$50,000 from the General Fund to each county that ~~conducts~~ *is selected to conduct* a pilot program, thereby making an appropriation. The bill would provide that public, private, and nonprofit agencies shall be eligible for this funding if specified evidence is provided and would encourage counties to give priority for funding to existing programs that have demonstrated effectiveness in ~~youth homelessness, human trafficking, child abuse, or~~ child sexual abuse or prevention. The bill would require each participating county to compile and collect data on the efficacy of the pilot program and to annually report to the State Department of Social Services, the Assembly Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Human Services specified information, including statistics on the increase or decrease of reports of child sexual abuse within the county. The bill would also make related findings and declarations. These provisions would be repealed on January 1, ~~2017~~ 2019.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Children are a precious resource in the state and country.
- 4 (b) Victims of child abuse, child sexual abuse, and neglect are
- 5 at higher risk for alcoholism, drug abuse, depression, eating
- 6 disorders, obesity, suicide, and other chronic adult health problems.
- 7 (c) Child abuse and neglect ~~costs~~ *cost* the United States at least
- 8 \$124 billion per year according to the federal Centers for Disease
- 9 Control *and Prevention*.
- 10 (d) Preventative services and training can significantly reduce
- 11 the incidences of child abuse, stabilize families, and contribute to
- 12 a reduction in crime.
- 13 (e) While child sexual abuse programs that address increased
- 14 reporting ~~after the fact~~ *after the fact* are critical to the child victims,
- 15 it should be the goal of all Californians to promote adult and
- 16 community responsibility to prevent child sexual abuse.
- 17 SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 18974) is added
- 18 to Chapter 11 of Part 6 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions
- 19 Code, to read:

Article 7. Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and Intervention
Programs

18974. (a) The Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program is hereby established as a pilot program in no more than three counties to provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention services through public, private, or nonprofit programs that provide child sexual abuse prevention and intervention ~~services~~. *services.*

(b) The sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) is hereby appropriated annually from the General Fund to each county that ~~conducts~~ *voluntarily chooses and is selected to conduct* a pilot program under this article to prevent and reduce child sexual abuse.

(c) The State Department of Social Services shall ~~determine the select counties that will~~ *to participate in the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program, from among the counties that notify the department of their intention to participate*, based on the agency's determination that the counties have significant incidences of ~~any of the following: homeless youth, child abuse, child sexual abuse, or sexually exploited minors, minors involved in prostitution, or human trafficking~~ *and have a public, private, or nonprofit organization with experience in child sexual abuse issues that is designated to act as the primary administrator for the pilot program.*

(d) Each participating county is encouraged to efficiently use these funds by giving priority to programs currently serving the needs of at-risk children that meet the criteria in Section 18974.1 and that have demonstrated effectiveness in ~~youth homelessness, human trafficking, child abuse, or~~ child sexual abuse prevention or intervention. The funds appropriated under this section shall not supplant or replace any existing funding for programs currently serving the needs of at-risk children, but may only supplement the expansion of existing programs or the collaboration of separate existing programs within the county, or fund newly created programs within the county if no current programs exist to serve the needs of children at risk of sexual abuse.

18974.1. (a) The county board of supervisors of a participating county shall allocate the pilot program funds according to the provisions of this article. The county board of supervisors may delegate the administration of the pilot program *funds* to the county social services department ~~or another similar local agency~~.

(b) Public, private, and nonprofit agencies shall be eligible for funding provided that evidence is submitted as part of the application to the county ~~for funding to demonstrate broad-based community support. The evidence shall further demonstrate that~~ the proposed services are not duplicated in the community, are based on needs of children at risk, and are supported by a local public agency, including, but not limited to, one of the following:

- (1) The county welfare department.
- (2) A public law enforcement agency.
- (3) The county probation department.
- (4) The county board of supervisors.
- (5) The county public health department.
- (6) The county mental health department.
- (7) Any school district.

(c) The administering local agency shall, with oversight and review from the county board of supervisors, compile and collect data on the efficacy of the pilot program.

(d) Each participating county shall annually report to the State Department of Social Services, the Assembly Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Human Services information including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Changing public attitudes or public opinion polls showing increased awareness of prevention techniques for child sexual abuse.

(2) The amount of educational materials distributed to stakeholder groups that address and promote child sexual abuse prevention and prevention techniques.

~~(3) The amount of educational materials distributed to stakeholder groups that address the connection between human trafficking and child sexual abuse.~~

~~(4)~~

(3) Statistics on the increase or decrease of reports of child sexual abuse within the county.

~~(5) Statistics on the increase or decrease of arrests and convictions within the county for child sexual abuse.~~

~~(6)~~

(4) Identified best practices used by the pilot program which may be replicated and used by other counties, including, but not limited to, community outreach, data collection and analysis, and the creation of educational materials.

1 ~~(7)~~

2 (5) A complete and accurate accounting of all funds received
3 and spent pursuant to this section.

4 ~~(8)~~

5 (6) Efforts to strengthen the capacity of schools and
6 youth-serving organizations pursuant to subdivision (f) and the
7 outcome of those efforts.

8 (e) Each participating county shall propose a multiyear plan
9 that identifies how to advance all of the following objectives:

10 (1) Fostering community coalitions and networks for preventing
11 and reducing youth homelessness, child abuse, child sexual abuse,
12 and human trafficking abuse.

13 (2) Strengthening individual knowledge and skills in identifying
14 risks and prevention techniques for youth homelessness, child
15 abuse, child sexual abuse, or human trafficking.

16 ~~(3) Promoting community education.~~

17 ~~(4) Educating providers of children services.~~

18 ~~(5) Changing children's organizations practices to reduce the~~
19 ~~possibility of child sexual abuse.~~

20 ~~(6)~~

21 (3) Promoting greater data sharing and collaboration between
22 law enforcement agencies, probation departments, and child welfare
23 agencies to identify children in the community who are at risk for
24 homelessness, abuse, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation,
25 prostitution, or human trafficking exploitation.

26 (f) Each pilot program shall do all of the following to strengthen
27 the capacity of schools and youth-serving organizations to prevent
28 sexual abuse:

29 (1) Utilize an assessment process to identify strengths and gaps.

30 (2) Implement comprehensive training, screening, responding,
31 and reporting protocols.

32 (3) Develop codes of conduct to prevent inappropriate behaviors
33 before they escalate to reportable offenses.

34 (4) Modify physical spaces to reduce risk.

35 (5) Adopt policies matched to the organizational mission.

36 (g) Each pilot program may create guidelines to assess the
37 community's overall understanding of child sexual abuse.

38 ~~(h) Each pilot program may create and track data to objectively~~
39 ~~measure changes in the community condition and attitudes towards~~

1 ~~child sexual abuse by performing certain tasks, including, but not~~
2 ~~limited, to the following:~~

3 ~~(1) Reviewing local sexual violence data, police reports, and~~
4 ~~reports of child sexual abuse to measure any change in reporting.~~

5 ~~(2) Identifying risk factors and protective factors particular to~~
6 ~~each community.~~

7 ~~(3) Tracking increases in preventative and treatment services~~
8 ~~within the community for child sexual abuse.~~

9 ~~(i) Each pilot program may develop local prevention plans.~~

10 ~~(j)~~

11 ~~(h) Each report submitted pursuant to subdivision (d) shall be~~
12 ~~submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government~~
13 ~~Code.~~

14 18974.2. This article shall remain in effect only until January
15 1, ~~2017~~ 2019, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
16 statute, that is enacted before January 1, ~~2017~~ 2019, deletes or
17 extends that date.